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ABSTRACT

This book was written in order to address the lack of understanding of the importance of President Truman's 1947 Commission recommendations for the establishment of public postsecondary schools, as well as the lack of understanding of the role that the Teachers College of Columbia University has played in the community college movement. The Truman Commission report was a radical departure from all that came before it. It called for an end to barriers to higher education that were based on race, gender, religion, income, or geographic location. The book also aims to examine the role of a federal commission in reimagining higher education, and the place the community college might play in that project. The book presents a section on the Truman Commission, which is followed by these nine chapters: (1) "The U.S. Scene in 1947"; (2) "Origins of Two-Year Junior Colleges"; (3) "Teachers College and the Associate Nursing Degree"; (4) "How to Do It Guidelines"; (5) "Ralph R. Fields"; (6) "Walter E. Sindlinger"; (7) "Michael Brick"; (8) "Joseph N. Nankin"; and (9) "Community Colleges and Research at the Turn of the Century." Biographies and Dissertations list appended. (NB)